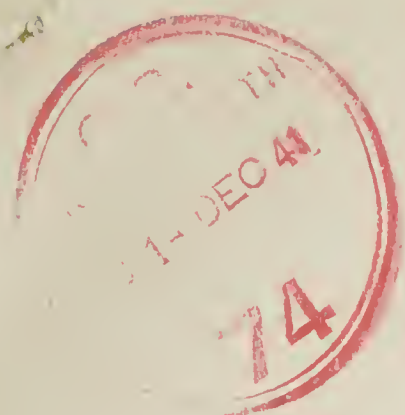


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A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the

Y E A R E N D I N G 31st. D E C E M B E R , 1940

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

of

OAKHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health

J. Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Camb.

Sanitary Inspector

H. Tabberer.

Sanitary Inspector's Certificate Royal
Sanitary Institute.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my Annual Report respecting the health and sanitary conditions of your District for the year ending 31st. December, 1940.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Ministry of Health, and in the interests of economy the Report has been made as brief and concise as possible.

It will be readily understood that routine work has often to take second place to the serious and urgent health problems arising during the course of the war. Every effort is made to safeguard the public health as far as possible in these times.


I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

John Young,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Camb.

Medical Officer of Health.



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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	2,250
Registrar-General's estimate of:-	
Resident population mid-1940	3,700
Number of inhabited houses end of 1940 according to Rate Book..	1,006
Rateable value... ..	£21,109
Sum represented by a penny rate	£79

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The industrial conditions are what one would look for in a small country town with a stationary population which is the centre of an agricultural and grazing district. There is a well-appointed cattle Market which is privately owned. There is one small shoe factory and a large railway provender store. The town possesses a well-known Public school of the same foundation as Uppingham.

In addition to the London Mothers and children who remained in Oakham as the result of the 1939 evacuation a party of about 30 Mothers and 60 children settled in Oakham in October 1940.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Legitimate	M. 32	F. 22	Total	54
	Illegitimate	M. -	F. 1		1
		<u>32</u>	<u>23</u>		<u>55</u>
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1939					
					14.8
Still Births					
					Nil
Birth rate for England and Wales					
					15.15
Deaths					
		M. 27	F. 16	Total	<u>43</u>
Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population					
					11.6
Comparative death rate (allowing for age and sex distribution)					
					8.1
Death rate for England and Wales					
					14.3

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the registrar-general's short List):-

No.29	puerperal sepsis	<u>Deaths</u>	
		1	
No.30	other puerperal causes	-	
All infants per 1,000 Live Births			54.5
Infant Mortality rate for England and Wales			55

CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>All causes</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
	27	16
Cancer	3	1
Measles	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-
Diarrhoea	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Influenza	4	1
Syphilllis	1	-
Diabetes	-	-
Intra cranial vascular Lesions	4	1
Heart Disease	4	3
Other circulatory Diseases ...	-	1
Bronchitis	2	1
Pneumonia	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	-	-
Other digestive diseases ...	-	-
Acute and chronic Nephritis ...	2	1
Congenital debility	-	-
Suicide	1	-
Other violence	2	3
Cerebro spinal fever	-	1
Tuberculosis	-	1
Nephritis	2	-
All other causes	3	1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. (1) Public Health Officers of the Authority

The Medical Officer acts for the Leicestershire & Rutland combined districts in which this District is included.

The sanitary Inspector is also the surveyor of the Urban District.

(11) Laboratory Facilities

The following examinations from your area were carried out during the year in the virology research Laboratories:-

Throat swab for diphtheria 18

(Of these 4 were for evacuees)

Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Leicester:-

Throat swabs	190	sputums... ..	1
Vaginal swabs... ..	5	Ham	1
Post Nasal swabs	12	Faeces	58
Pus	13	Blood serum	86
C.S.F. cultures	3		

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. (1) WATER

Number of samples taken for analysis:-

(a)	from wells	Nil
(b)	From pipe supply	Nil

Results of samples taken:-

(a)	from wells	Nil
(b)	from pipe supply	Nil

Number of samples condemned:-

from wells Nil

Number of wells:-

(a)	closed	Nil
(b)	cleansed, repaired, etc.	Nil

Number of cases in which public supply was substituted for well water... .. Nil

The supply has been of good quality and sufficient quantity during the year.

No further examinations have been made.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Number of cesspools constructed during
the year ... Nil

Number of cesspools abolished during the
year ... Nil

Total number in the District at the
end of 1940 ... 6

2. (1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Total number in the District at the end
of 1940:-

(1)	privies	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	pail closets	...	...	...	...	48
(3)	water closets	...	...	...	...	1,036

Number of privies and pail closets converted
to the water carriage system during the
year ... Nil

Number of pail closets abolished.. ... 2

Number of Privies converted to pail closets
during the year... ... Nil

Water or sewer are not available to 19 of the above
48 pail closets. Others will disappear as a result
of Demolition Orders or conversion, etc. in the near
future. Pail closet conversions to water carriage
for the last 5 years have been 5, 18, 79, 16 and
Nil - average 24.

A Public Convenience for men and women was built and
opened during the year.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council has two horse-drawn refuse collecting
vehicles for the removal and disposal of house refuse
which collect from each house weekly. The refuse is
tipped into an old brickyard on the North-East side of
the town.

The Council does not undertake the cleansing of
cesspools. There are practically no ashpits. Nightsoil
is collected before 9 a.m. (ordinarily on two mornings per
week only. Two carts are employed, four journeys being
made) Owing to evacuation it is now necessary to
collect twice per week from some houses. The pails
are washed at the pit and sprinkled with carbolic powder
each time of emptying.

No improvements have been made during the year.

(iii) SMOKE ABATEMENT

No observations were made and no action was necessary,

(iv)

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The particulars given under this Heading are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this Report.

Total number of complaints received ... 3

Total number of defects or nuisances
discovered 2

Nature of inspections:-

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Revisits</u>
Dwelling houses		
(all purposes)	191	26
Tents, vans, etc.	-	-
Slaughter Houses	4	-
Food premises	29	8
Dairies and cowsheds	9	2
Offensive trades	-	-
Animal keeping	3	1
Workshops, etc.	10	-
Shops	15	-
Other premises	20	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	281	44
	<hr/>	<hr/>

During the first four months of 1940 the Sanitary Inspector has had the added duty of Chief Billeting Officer. He has also had the duty of fitting, issuing and repairing respirators as no other accessible officer is available. These extra duties necessarily reduced his outside activities as Sanitary Inspector.

NOTICES

<u>preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>other</u>
Outstanding on 1st. Jan.	-	-
Issued during the year	1	61
Complied with during year	1	61
Outstanding 31st. December	-	-
Statutory action necessary	-	-

This is mainly done by letter or verbally and followed up at the time. Most of the 61 Informal Notices were calling for provision of dustbins.

<u>statutory</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>other</u>
Outstanding on 1st. Jan.	12	-
Issued during the year	-	-
Complied with during the year	-	-
Outstanding 31st. December	12	-

All the above were Demolition Orders, 9 of which are operative and 3 are subject to undertakings accepted by County Court.

<u>summary Action</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>other</u>
Number of summonses issued	-	-
Number of convictions obtained	-	-

(v) SHOPS

Action taken during the year under the provisions of the shop Act, 1934.

	<u>outstanding from previous year</u>	<u>defects found</u>	<u>defects remedied</u>	<u>outstanding 31st. Dec.</u>
sanitary				
conveniences	-	-	-	-
Temperature	-	-	-	-
ventilation	-	-	-	-

(vi) CAMPING SITES

None in area and no Licences have been issued.

(vii) REGULATED BUILDINGS

Common Lodging Houses There is one Lodging House in the District and four inspections have been made. This is very little used at present.

Tents, vans, etc. None

Canal Boats None

offensive trades None

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of Council Houses infested	...	...	Nil
Number of other dwelling-houses found infested	...	...	Nil
Number of houses disinfested	...	...	Nil

(ix) SCHOOLS

The sanitary conditions are satisfactory and the water supply is good. At one period in the year attention has to be called to need for greater cleanliness at one school.

No schools were disinfected.

(x) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

owned by school trustees and loaned to Council	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

There is an efficient filtration plant.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK SUPPLY

	<u>Cowkeepers</u>	<u>Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than cowkeepers.</u>
Number on the Register ...	6	10
Number of inspections of premises..	6	5
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	-	-
Number of contraventions found during the year... ..	-	-
Number of contraventions remedied	-	-
Number of contraventions outstanding on 31st. Dec. ...	-	-
<u>Total contraventions - Nil</u>		

MILK SAMPLING

	<u>Total number of samples taken for bacteriological examination during 1940</u>	<u>Number satis'y</u>	<u>Number unsatis'y</u>
Designated	-	-	-
Ordinary	1	1	-

No action was taken with regard to unsatisfactory samples.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936 & 1938

Licences issued by Local Authorities Nil

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Number of public Abattoirs in the District... .. None

private slaughter Houses:-

	<u>In Jan. 1940</u>	<u>In Dec. 1940</u>
Number registered	4	-
Number licensed	1	3

No slaughtering is now done in Oakham, but 3 slaughter Houses were licensed during the year to comply with Public Health Act, 1936. Registered slaughter Houses disappear under the Act.

MEAT STALLS

Number of inspections Nil

MEAT SHOPS, MEAT STORES, Etc.

Number of inspections 15

9½ imported lambs and 2 legs were voluntarily surrendered as unfit

PLACES WHERE FOOD OTHER THAN MEAT IS KEPT OR PREPARED FOR SALE

Number of inspections 25
75 lbs bacon was voluntarily surrendered as unfit.

H O U S I N G

(1) INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 171
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 227
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 -
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 1
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusively of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 1

2) REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 1

3) ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs Nil

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) by owners Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notice -

(a) by owners Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners... .. Nil

(c) proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... Nil

Two houses were closed but not demolished pursuant to demolition orders

(d) proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING:

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of 1939 Nil

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein Nil

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein Nil

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 1

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year Nil

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases Nil

(The case of overcrowding has been relieved (but not abated) by removal of lodger.

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the sanitary inspector may consider it desirable to report:-

The Evacuation scheme has necessarily caused temporary overcrowding and it has been necessary to permit this. Such cases are not recorded or included above.

The shortage of houses which was apparent before the war is intensified by war conditions and by the cessation of building.

No new houses were completed during the year.

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PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASE

Notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) during the
year, 1940

disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Dysentery	9	1	-
Scarlet Fever	11	9	-
Diphtheria	3	1	-
Pneumonia	8	-	1
Erysipelas	2	1	-
Puerperal pyrexia	1	1	1
Measles	15	1	-
Cerebro spinal Meningitis	2	1	1

AGE GROUPS

Disease	Under one	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 & over
Dysentery						3	1		1		4	
Scarlet Fever		1		1			4	1	4			
Diphtheria						1	1	1				
Cerebro spinal Meningitis					1		1					
Pneumonia						1			1	1	4	1
Erysipelas											2	
Puerperal Pyrexia								1				
Measles		2	1	2	1	7		1			1	
Whooping Cough		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality during 1940

AGE GROUPS	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
5 - 15								
15 - 25		1	1					
25 - 35	1							
35 - 45	1	1						
55 - 65								

